

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Public Works	(2) MEETING DATE 10/22/2013	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Mark Hutchinson, Environmental Programs Manager (805) 781-5458	
(4) SUBJECT Submittal of a resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works to enter into environmental processing agreements with other public agencies. All Districts.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is our recommendation that your Honorable Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works to enter into environmental processing agreements with other Public Agencies.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) N/A	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT N/A	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT N/A	(9) BUDGETED? N/A
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ____ ) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ____ )			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A    Date:	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW <i>Nikki J. Schmidt</i>			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts -			

Reference: 13OCT22-C-1

## County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Public Works

Mark Hutchinson, Environmental Programs Manager

VIA: Paavo Ogren, Director of Public Works

DATE: 10/22/2013

SUBJECT: Submittal of a resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works to enter into environmental processing agreements with other public agencies. All Districts.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is our recommendation that your Honorable Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works to enter into environmental processing agreements with other Public Agencies.

### **DISCUSSION**

Public agency projects are subject to a number of environmental regulatory processes, permits, agreements, and authorizations that often involve compliance with complex and highly specialized procedures and requirements (Attachment "A"). Since its inception in 2002, the Environmental Division of the Department of Public Works has worked to develop the expertise required to shepherd public projects through the environmental regulatory process. Together with an equal level of expertise in all other facets of project development and implementation, the ability to negotiate the environmental regulatory process has contributed greatly to the success of the Public Works Department's capital and maintenance programs.

In response to outside requests, the Department has regularly provided informal information and advice to assist other local agencies in navigating the environmental regulatory requirements of their particular projects. However, interagency cooperation has been limited both by availability of staff and the inability to enter into funding agreements. Recently, San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) has sought environmental services in a formal agreement in order to secure project approval and funding.

The attached resolution will authorize the Director of Public Works to enter into funding agreements with other agencies in order to provide these services in a timely manner. No increase in staffing is being considered; interagency work will be priority based on an as available basis.

At the same time, the Department of Public Works has a strong interest in developing environmental regulatory knowledge and expertise in other public agencies and other County Departments. Therefore, the approach to working with other agencies will often involve working primarily in an oversight role to guide the project through scoping, consultant selection, permit negotiation, and compliance during the construction and mitigation phases.

### **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

Other agencies engaged in the environmental aspects of public projects are listed in Attachment "A" Short List of Environmental Regulatory Agencies and Processes. It is anticipated that environmental regulatory processing agreements might be made with any of the cities, SLOCOG, or special districts located within San Luis Obispo County.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Although the cost of environmental compliance varies significantly on a project by project basis, there are no specific financial commitments created as a result of the recommended actions. The resolution limits any agreement to a maximum of \$50,000, both to help define the size and scope of other agency projects that the Department could reasonably assist with, and to avoid competing with local environmental consultant firms that provide valuable services to public agencies.

### **RESULTS**

Adoption of the attached resolution will allow the Department of Public Works to assist other agencies to negotiate the environmental regulatory process in an efficient and cost effective manner, continuing existing efforts to provide a well governed, livable and safe community.

File: CF 450.10.00

Reference: 13OCT22-C-1

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### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Attachment A - Short List of Environmental Regulatory Agencies and Processes
2. Resolution Authorizing the Director of Public Works to Enter into Environmental Processing Agreements with Other Public Agencies